such growth Centres besides Central Government, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Government have decided to set up 100 growth centres all over the country which will act as magnet to attract industries. The location of such growth centres will be decided in consulation with the State Governments concerned. Industries set up in such growth centres will get facilities and incentives that are normally extended to industries set up in backward areas. It is for the State Governments concerned to decide on the facilities and incentive that will be extended by them in these growth centres.

एच० बी० जे० पाइपलाइन के माध्यम से मध्य प्रदेश को अधिक गैस का दिया जाना

1343. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री 14 मार्च, 1988 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1967 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बतानें की कृपा करेंगें कि :

(क) एच०बी०जे० पाइपलाइन से किये जा रहे अतिरिक्त गैस प्रदाय को देखते हुए, क्या मध्य प्रदेश को और अधिक गैस उपलब्ध कराये जाने के संबंध में कोई निर्णय लिया गया है ;

(ख) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई तकनीकी और आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण कराया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार के निष्कर्ष क्या हैं और उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री ब्रह्म दत्त) : (क) से (ग) मध्य प्रदेश में किसी नई परियोजना के लिये गैस देने के लिये आगे कोई वचन नहीं दिये हैं ।

Involvement of foreign company in the HBJ pipeline deal

1344. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign agency/ concern was involved in the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) gas pipeline deal;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the World Bank have shown their interest for investment in HBJ Pipeline;

(d) if so, whether the proposal for investment of World Bank was ignored and a private foreign company was favoured; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The execution of the HBJ Pipeline Project involved inviting tenders for the two major components;

(i) Supply of line pipes; and

(ii) composite contract for laying the pipeline and associated facilities.

Global tenders were invited for both the line pipes and composite contract for the pipe laying and associated facilities. Orders were placed with the following parties for purchase of line pipes:

(i) Japanese Consortium

(ii) Interbras Petrobrass Brazil

(iii) Bergrohr, Gombh, West Germany and

(iv) Sider Export, Italy.

The composite contract was awarded to the consortium led by M/s. Spie Capag.

(c) The project was posed to the World Bank Group for assistance. The World Bank indicated the possibility of a loan of US $ 190 million to cover a portion of foreign exchange cost of the pipeline material, walls terminal, despatch station etc. and not for the ful foreign exchange requirement of the project.

(d) and (e) There was no investment of World Bank. and there was no investment by any private foreign company either. Contracts were awarded after evaluation of different bids and bilateral aid offers.

Power projects in private sector

1345. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several leading industrial groups and Non-resident Indians have shown interest in setting up power projects in the private sector;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have since considered the suggestions of the private sector to set up power plants in the country; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) While some parties have evinced interest in the setting up of power plants, including with NRI participation, no detailed proposal has been received so far.

(c) and (d) A Working Group comprising, inter alia, representatives of the State Electricity Boards and the private utilities was set up to examine, in detail, the question of encouraging private sector participation in power generation. The matter is receiving consideration of the Government.

Soviet interest for development of energy technology in India

1346. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union has evinced keen interest in the developments in India in renewable and decentralised form of energy technologies;

(b) if so, what are the details of the projects on which Soviet Union is showing their keen interest;

(c) whether the Soviet team or Indian team have visited their countries to identify such projects; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENEPGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. As a result of discussion held during the visit of the Soviet Science & Technology delegation to India last year, a Protocol was signed between India (Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources) and Soviet side (Institute of High Temperatures of the Soviet Academy of Sciences) for implementing a programme of scientific cooperation. This included joint feasibility studies on retrofitting Magneto Hydro Dynamics (MHD) power system in the existing power plants in India, exchange of information in advanced energy technologies relating to solar energy, boimass conversion & super conducting material, new and efficient ways of coal utilisation through gasification, synthetic fuel production and exchange of visits of sicentific personnel.